

21. The process in accordance with claim 19, further comprising arranging a joining thread in a zig-zag configuration to prevent lateral displacement of the warp threads of a warp group.

22. The process in accordance with claim 19, further comprising arranging a joining thread in a zig-zag configuration to prevent lateral displacement of the fixing threads.

23. The process in accordance with claim 19, further comprising joining the warp and weft threads to a non-woven material layer.

24. The process in accordance with claim 23, wherein the joining includes one of knitting on and applying by Raschel knitting.

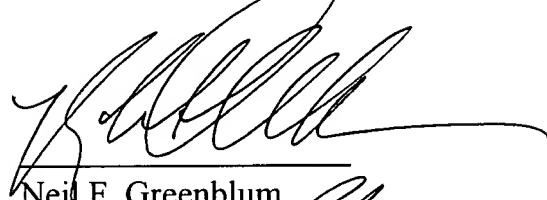
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

Applicant notes that the instant amendment is being submitted to address formal matters, and is not being made for any purpose related to a statutory basis of patentability. Further, Applicant submits that the scope of the claims has not been narrowed.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX

Marked-Up Copies of the Amended Paragraphs:

Please enter the following new headings, new subheading, and new paragraph:

---CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0000.1] The present application is a U.S. National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/EP00/02395 filed March 17, 2000 and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of German Patent Application No. 199 15 722.7 filed April 8, 1999.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. **Field of the Invention---**

Please enter the following new subheading before paragraph [0002]:

---2. Discussion of Background Information---

Please enter the following heading and amend paragraphs [0004] and [0005] as follows:

---SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The [object of the] present invention [is to provide] provides a better join between the warp threads and the weft threads without requiring additional fixing threads or stronger fixing threads.

[0005] In accordance with the invention [that object is attained in that], in the regions in which the weft threads cross the warp threads, the lengths of the meshes of the fixing

threads are markedly shorter than in the regions which are therebetween.---

Please enter the following new heading before paragraph [0008]:

---BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS---

Please enter the following new heading before paragraph [0012]:

---DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION---